Listing of claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

- 1. (Original) A purified and isolated *Vezf1* gene having the nucleic acid sequence set forth in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:1).
 - 2. (Original) The *Vezf1* gene of claim 1, as contained in a vector molecule.
- 3. (Original) A purified and isolated nucleic acid encoding a *Vezf1* protein, wherein the *Vezf1* protein has an amino acid sequence as set forth in FIGURE 1 (SEQ ID NO:2).
- 4. (Original) The nucleic acid of claim 3, contained in an expression vector and operably linked to a promoter element.
- 5. (Original) The nucleic acid of claim 4, wherein the promoter element is not the *Vezf1* promoter.
- 6. (Original) An expression vector containing the DB1 gene operably linked to a heterologous promoter element, wherein the promoter element is selectively active in vascular endothelial cells.

7-25. (Cancelled)